happened at 3 P.M. whereas the examination commenced at 2.30 P.M. The case has since been handed over to the CBI for investigation.

On the basis of the inquiry conducted by the UPSC, the Commission have come to the conclusion that there is no reason to believe that there had been leakage of the question paper before the commencement of the examination compromising its integrity. A decision has ,therefore, been taken by the Commission not to cancel the examination.

Pending Pension/Family Pension Cases

1611. SHRI RAM NARESH YADAV: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had issued certain instructions to all Ministries/Departments that Pension/family pension cases and related issues are to be disposed of during the stipulated period failing which interest on dues of retired officials/families of deceased Government Servants would be paid by Government;

(b) if so, whether all such cases have accordingly been disposed of during the last five years (upto 31st July, 1992) by Ministry of Personnel and Public Grievances and Pensions; and

(c) if so, the details of such cases pending/disposed of at a later stage and the amount of interest paid against delayed cases/proposed to be paid or not to be paid with the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) Yes, Sir. Rules provide for payment of interest only on delayed payment of retirement gratuity/death gratuity.

(b) and (c) Interest is payable if it is clearly established that the delay in payment was attributable to administrative lapse and that the delay was not caused on account of failure on the part of the Government servant in complying with the procedure laid down for sanction of pension/family pension. The system of sanction and payment of pension operates on a decentralised basis. Similarly decisions for payment of interest on delayed payment of gratuity are also taken on a decentralised basis with the approval of the Secretary of the Ministry/Department concerned. The approval of the Department of Pension and Pensioners' Welfare is not required for payment of interest. The information in the manner desired is, therefore, not centrally available.

SC/ST Backlog in Services

1612. SHRI RAM NARESH YADAV: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Chief Minister's conference held during October, 1991 in New Delhi had decided to fill up the SC and ST backlog in services by the end of March, 1992;

(b) if so, the number of vacancies filled during the period October, 1991 to March, 1992; and

(c) the detailed position of SC and ST backlog in the various Ministries/Departments/Corporations of Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A Special Recruitment Drive was undertaken to fill up the backlog of reservations for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes as on 31-3-91 in Ministries/Departments of the Central Government. A backlog of 20041 was identified under the Drive against which 9271 candidates were offered appointment. A similar

Drive was also undertaken by Public Sector Undertakings, Banks and Insurance Corporations. As against a backlog of 15195, 8960 candidates were offered appointment.

संघ लोक सेवा आयोग के परामर्शों की अवहेलना

1613. **श्री मोहम्मद अफजल उर्फ मीम अफजल** : क्या **प्रधान मंत्री** यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) पिछले पांच वर्षों के दौरान कितने मामलों में संघ लोक सेवा आयोग के परामर्शों की अवहेलना की गई है ; और

(ख) उसके क्या कारण थे ?

कार्मिक, लोक शिकायत तथा पेंशन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री श्रीमती मार्गरेट आल्वा (क) पिछले पांच वर्षों के दौरान संघ लोक सेवा आयोग द्वारा की गई सिफारिशों को स्वीकार न किए जाने वाले मामलों की कुल संख्या नीचे दर्शायी गई है :—

वर्ष	ऐसे मामलों की कुल संख्या जिनमें संघ लोक सेवा आयोग ने सिफारिश की	असहमति के मामलों की कुल संख्या
1986–87	17533	30
1987–88	16389	22
1988–89	14705	15
1989–90	14740	10
1990–91	19024	8

(ख) संघ लोक सेवा आयोग की सिफारिश को स्वीकार न किए जाने के मुख्य कारण ये हैं (i) सेवा रिकार्डों के आधार पर उम्मीदवार की उपयुक्तता के मूल्यांकन में विचारों में मतभेद तथा अन्य संबंधित पहलू (ii) कदाचार के लिए उपयुक्त सजा के संबंध में विचारों में मतभेद।

Problem of Redundent Officers

1614. SHRI S. MADHAVAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item published in the daily 'Hindu', dated the 23rd May, 1992 under the caption "The problem of redundant Officers" and if so, the number of officers sent back to States; and

(b) whether the State Government have represented that the allotment of I.A.S. Officers to States must be reduced and if so, the steps taken to ease the burden of States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) The Government is aware of the news item published in the daily 'Hindu' dated 23rd May, 1992 under the caption "The great Delhi Axe and after" which *inter alia* relates to problems of redundant officers. No officer serving at the Centre